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***Indiana ranks 5th in national survey
of economic development activity***

Indiana is in a state of progress – and a national economic development magazine just told the world.

The annual Governor's Cup survey conducted by Site Selection magazine placed Indiana fifth on its list of Top 10 states for economic activity in 2001, based on 10 criteria. Indiana also was fourth in the nation in growth in new and expanded facilities, one of the criteria.

"This is great news," Governor Frank O'Bannon said. "This survey shows we continue to be very active in economic growth.

"But we have still have much work to do, and the only way to continue this kind of progress is for the General Assembly to pass both our tax restructuring plan, which will improve Indiana's business climate, and our Balanced Budget Plan, which will ensure that Indiana offers the top-notch educational system and other services that make businesses want to locate in a state."

The survey ranks states according to the number of new facilities announced or constructed in the previous year, the number of facilities that announced or undertook significant expansions, the number of jobs created and other criteria. Illinois placed first, Kentucky ranked second, New York was third and Michigan and Virginia tied for fourth. Indiana shared the fifth spot with North Carolina.

"This ranking indicates that, even though 2001 was a difficult year in many ways, Indiana continued to support many business expansion and relocation projects," said Lieutenant Governor Joe Kernan, who leads the state's economic development efforts. "Our placement in this survey will help attract national attention to our state, which can only help our business attraction and retention efforts in 2002."

Site Selection, which is read by more than 45,000 corporate real estate decision makers each month, is one of the nation's leading economic development magazines. Details of the survey rankings will appear in the publication's March issue and are now available on its website at www.siteselection.com.

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